

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 9-13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Cucuzza in view of the patents to Boberg and Kubiak.

The disclosure is objected to and the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

At the same time, the Examiner indicated that Claims 14 and 17 were not rejected over the art.

In connection with the Examiner's formal objections to the disclosure, applicants amended the disclosure as suggested by the Examiner. It is believed that the grounds for these objections should be considered as no longer tenable and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's rejection of the claims for formal reasons, and over the art, applicants cancelled the original claims and submitted a new set of Claims 18-25.

Claims 21 and 25 substantially correspond to original Claims 14 and 17 which were indicated as allowable by the Examiner. It is believed that these claims are now in allowable condition.

The other independent claims have been drafted to define that the tensioning aggregate has a tensioning chain, and that mounting means is provided, in front of which the spin spraying nozzle is being located, with recesses (openings) for a glue track.

In the Office Action the Examiner indicated that in his opinion the mounting means are disclosed in the patent to Boberg. The patent to Boberg teaches a conveyor 33 with restraining member 37 for the web, which corresponds to the tensioning chain. The restraining members 37 are located at the edges of the web with a certain distance to the product, in particular, to the diapers. As a result, all of the seven nozzles of the patent to Boberg are located with a distance to the restraining members 37.

Mounting means for mounting the edges of the web on the conveyor 33 are generated by the rollers 47, 40, 39, 27 and 28. All of them are located, in a transporting direction, in front of the nozzles as shown in Figure 2.

The patent to Boberg teaches to mount the web on the conveyor 33 before spraying the adhesive strands 21, 22, 23 on the diapers. The patent to Boberg also teaches to arrange the restraining members 37 at the edges of the web outside of the product, e.g. outside of the diapers.

The present invention relates to a tensioning aggregate which is provided for edge gluing. As a result, the nozzles have to be arranged in a region, in which the web is restrained by the tensioning chain.

One new feature of the present invention is that the nozzles have to be arranged:

- In front of the mounting means for mounting the edges of the product on the tensioning chain, or
- If the nozzles are arranged after first mounting means, loosening/releasing means for loosening/releasing the product web from the tensioning chain and second mounting means are to be provided.

The mounting means after a nozzle can be generated as a brush band above the product web and a pressure band under the product web as now defined in Claim 19, or a brush roller as now defined in Claim 22.

A very important new feature of this mounting means is that they are provided with openings or recesses, as explained on page 15, line 9-14 and page 16, lines 4-10 of the Specification. The recesses are located on straight lines extending in the transporting direction and at the edges of the product web, as now defined in Claims 18, 20 and 21.

The mounting means of the tensioning aggregate in accordance with the present invention are provided only for the edges of the product web, they are arranged in the transporting direction behind the nozzles and they are provided with recesses for the glue track of the corresponding nozzles.

The patent to Boberg does not disclose such mounting means for mounting or re-mounting the edges of the product web onto restraining members. The patent to Boberg teaches to arrange the mounting means in the transporting direction before the nozzles and to

arrange the restraining members 37 with a distance to the product and its glue tracks.

It is clear that the patent to Boberg does not teach the new features of the present invention which are now defined in the above-specified claims. The other references, namely the patents to Cucuzza and Kubiak also do not teach these new features of the present invention. Therefore, any combination of the references including the combination proposed by the Examiner would lead only to such a tensioning aggregate which would also not include the new features of the present invention.

In view of the above-presented remarks and amendments, it is believed that all claims currently on file should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be

carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

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